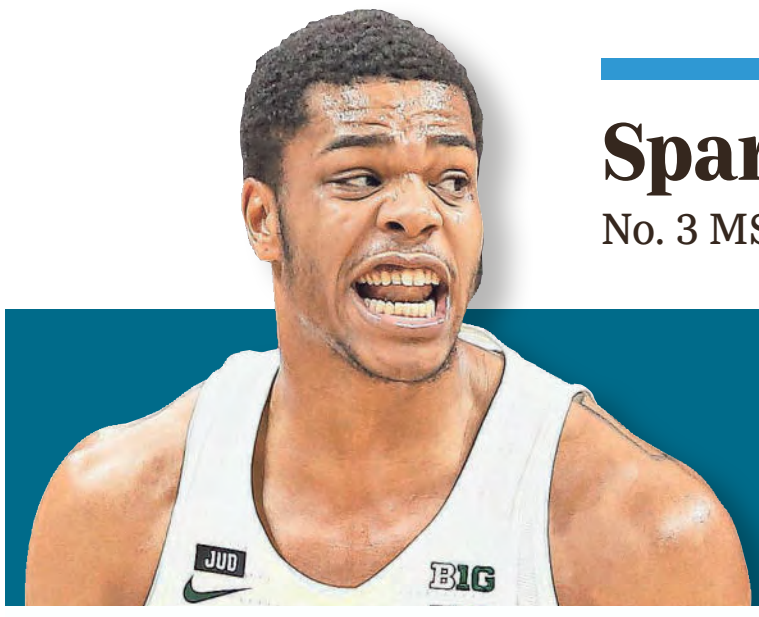

Spartans' furious start subdues Irish

No. 3 MSU's defense key in 81-63 win over No. 5 Notre Dame SPORTS, 1B

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Detroit Free Press

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Top Dems: Conyers must resign

Congressman hospitalized; his lawyer says he won't be pressured

Todd Spangler and Kathleen Gray
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Nancy Pelosi

John Conyers

More inside:

▫ Marion Brown gives details on her allegations. **8A**

WASHINGTON – His support quickly evaporating, three Michigan Democrats joined House Speaker Paul Ryan and Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi on Thursday to call on U.S. Rep. John Conyers to resign over sexual harassment claims against the Detroit congressman.

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina, the third-ranking Democrat in the U.S. House and a longtime member with Conyers on the Congressional Black Caucus, also called for Conyers to step down.

The calls came on a day when Conyers, complaining of dizziness and shortness of breath, was reported hospitalized in Detroit because of what his lawyer said was stress over the allegations.

At a news conference outside of Conyers' Detroit home just moments after Ryan and Pelosi called on Conyers to resign, attorney Arnold Reed said, "First of all it's not up to Nancy Pelosi. Nancy Pelosi did not elect the congressman and she sure as hell won't be the one to tell the congressman to leave. That decision will be completely up to the congressman."

He said the congressman was concentrating on his health.

"He is thinking about getting well. That is the main focus of the family."

Referring to Pelosi's comments, Reed said: "There are, to my count, five of these allegations against Al Franken. There are four — three or four — against the congressman. At the end of the day, I would suspect that Nancy Pelosi is going to have to explain what is the discernible difference between Al Franken and

See CONYERS, Page 8A

METRO, 4A

Bobcat gives U.P. residents rare close-up

A bobcat spent three days in the yard of an Upper Peninsula couple.

SPORTS, 6-7B

Girls prep basketball preview

Mick McCabe previews the state's top 20 teams and top 100 players.

Weather

High 46° ▫ Low 33°
Some sun. Forecast, **2A**

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GM SHOWS OFF RIDE-HAILING FLEET DUE IN 2019

No driver, big profit?

A Cruise Automation self-driving test vehicle navigates the urban streets of San Francisco.
KARL NIELSEN FOR CRUISE AUTOMATION/FREE PRESS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Marco della Cava
USA TODAY

SAN FRANCISCO – General Motors plans to roll out a driverless ride-hailing fleet by 2019 that eventually could become a core part of the automaker's business.

GM executives told investors here Thursday that by 2025, autonomous vehicles could be operated profitably because cost reductions and wide consumer adoption should reduce the price of such transportation down to less than $1 per mile, or about a third of current ride-hailing services.

Without a driver to pay, profits from autonomous ride-hailing fleets would go directly to whatever companies run them. The main cost of business is maintenance and manufacturing the vehicles.

Advocates say self-driving cars can drastically cut pollution and help prevent the current 40,000 annual road deaths, most of which are the result of driver error.

"We're aiming for a future of zero crashes, zero emissions and zero congestion," GM CEO Mary Barra said.

While hybrids and plug-in electric vehicles now account for about 3% of new vehicle sales in the U.S., GM executives see that changing as battery range increases and battery costs fall.

"We need to accelerate acceptance of electric vehicles," said Mark Reuss, executive vice president of global product development.

GM's current entry in the pure electric category is the Chevrolet Bolt.

The company's autonomous, or self-driving, technology, has accelerated after it ac-

More inside:

▫ 2019 Kia Sorrento is safer, has off-road game. **6A**

▫ Toyota concept SUV has removable headlights. **6A**

▫ Honda Clarity named Green Car of the Year. **7A**

See DRIVERLESS, Page 8A

Leaders endorse for UAW president

Missouri accountant heads up a slate that will be voted on by members in June

Phoebe Wall Howard
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY Network

Gary Jones

UAW leaders who arrived in Detroit this week from across the country elected a slate on Thursday that positions respected accountant Gary Jones of O'Fallon, Mo., to succeed Dennis Williams as the union's president when Williams retires next June.

Members of the largest and most powerful UAW caucus have described Jones as a steady hand who can effectively navigate the organization through times of change and uncertainty.

In addition to Jones, the slate includes Gary Casteel, who is expected to remain as secretary-treasurer, and vice presidents Cindy Estrada, Rory Gamble and Terry Dittes.

Rank and file members will vote at the UAW's Constitutional Convention in June, but victory is traditionally a shoo-in for nominees selected by this group. While other members can run for president or vice president, the men and women named Thursday are likely to lead the union for the next several years.

See UAW, Page 9A

Jones, 60, a regional director who oversees 17 states, was considered the front-runner going into this week's caucus.

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